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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

No. 2473

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SEMINARS ON QUALITY OF LIFE, COST OF LIVING

Paris LE CONTINENT in French 13 Jul 81 p 12

/Text/ Two seminars with the same goal are being held at this moment in West Africa. The first brings together African trade unionists in the Togolese capital; the second, academics and planning officials in the Senegalese capital. The two seminars aim to bring out theoretical ways of measuring the cost of living in Africa in general and the quality of life in the Sahelian countries.

In Lome, 18 trade unionists from 14 countries have been participating, since 6 July, in a 2-week seminar organized jointly by the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) and the Afro-American Labor Center, under the auspices of the Togolese trade union movement (CNTT /National Confederation of Togolese Workers/7).

The delegates, coming from Burundi, Congo, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Mauritius, Tunisia, Niger, Zaire and Togo, are to discuss questions in common regarding the analysis of the economic problems of their respective countries and of Africa in general. They will study the measures to be taken to determine cost of living indexes, by comparing the wages paid in their own country, sector by sector. This will make it possible to compare them with those in other African countries. They will then define ways of evaluating international economic trends by examining their effect on national economies, as well as the way in which they affect the average worker.

According to Mrs Judith Trunzo, the American organizer of the Lome seminar, research is a basic tool for strengthening African trade union movements. She rightly predicted, in her opening speech, that the participants at this seminar would return to their countries better equipped to set up, organize and finance trade union research centers in their respective countries.

For his part, Cisahako Amedee of Burundi, representing the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (based in Ghana), told the delegates that trade union research is not yet sufficiently developed in Africa and that progress achieved in the research field could contribute to strengthening workers' movements from one end of the continent to the other.

The seminar, whose proceedings are to end on 17 July, was officially opened by the Togolese minister of labor, Ali Napo.

As for the Dakar seminar, one of the most important subjects taken up concerns an index making it possible to measure the quality of life in the Sahel. This index is achieved by combining the infant mortality rate, the life expectancy of a year-old child, and the literacy rate. It is supposed to measure the living conditions of a country's population at a given moment. Conceived some years ago by the Overseas Development Council, it is intended to supplement the data obtained thanks to the gross national product. With regard to the Sahel, the seminar participants proposed that certain other data should be included in the index, such as nutrition, food availability, deforestation, rate of primary school attendance and employment.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

AFRICA LOOKS FOR NEW COFFEE GROWING TECHNIQUES

Ouagadougou LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 13 Jul 81 p 3

/Text/ (New Press Agency) -- The Inter-African Coffee Organization (IACO) held a seminar in Doualo on the rationalization of African coffee growing. Specialists from all over the world (agronomists, academics, technicians, etc...) participated in this important meeting.

The fact is that for a large number of African countries, coffee constitutes an exchange currency which, for many years, was as good as gold. In the Ivory Coast as in Cameroon, in Uganda as in Tanzania, and in Zaire as in Madagascar, coffee exports represent an important part of the financial resources.

A Depressed Market

But coffee, trade in which constitutes the world's foremost agricultural market, is, for more than one reason, a sensitive product. Despite the existence of an agreement set up under the aegis of the International Coffee Organization, which has its head-quarters in London, prices obey that famous law of supply and demand,

For the last 4 years, coffee prices have been somewhat depressed, and these fluctuations weigh down the economy of a large number of producing countries. Prospects hardly look favorable. Already Brazil, the world's leading producer, estimates that its harvest will probably be 60 percent higher than that of last season.

It will thus reach its highest level since 1975. We must therefore expect a drop in prices, which will move even further away from the "peaks" reached in 1976 during the frosts in the state of Sao Paulo.

Objectives, Programs

Hence arises the concern of the African producers and the need for governments to review the organization of the distribution networks, particularly upriver in the field, where plantations can yet be found whose yield and productivity are still not competitive.

In Doula therefore, the IACO seminar took up the problem of rationalization on the basis of "a thorough consideration of the foundations, objectives and programs underlying national coffee growing policies, in order to bring production capacities and mechanisms under control, as well as the possibilities of packaging and processing this product."

The seminar also studied "the rationalization of the networks channeling physical and financial flows, as well as the triangular producer-administrator-intermediary relationships, so as to build, on reliable bases, a true income policy for a farm proprietor."

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BRIEFS

FRENCH OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS—Luanda, 8 Aug (AFP)—Mr Regis Debray and Mr Guy Penne, President Francois Mitterrand's advisers, held discussions in Luanda on Saturday with Angolan authorities within the framework of the African tour which the French President has assigned them. The two advisers who arrived in Luanda on Friday evening from Congo, after visiting Niger, Benin and Gabon, are the bearers of a message from the French President to his Angolan counterpart, Mr Jose Eduardo Dos Santos. According to the National Press Agency, ANGOP, Mr Penne, at the talks during which Angola was represented by Mr Carlos Fernandes, secretary to the president of the republic for foreign relations, stated that the French Government of the leftist union wishes to have more privileged relations with Angola. According to the same source, Mr Penne said that the present government wishes to develop the cooperation established by preceding French governments. Mr Penne and Mr Debray will leave Luanda Saturday evening for Lusaka (Zambia). Their African tour continues with visits to Maputo (Mozambique) and Djibouti. [Text] [ABO91033 Paris AFP in French 1819 GMT 8 Aug 81]

MAVINGA CONTROL--Paris, 8 Aug (AFP)--In a communique reaching Paris on Saturday, UNITA asserts that in spite of the false allegations by the minority regime in Angola, its armed forces still control the town of Mavinga, which they took from the enemy on 28 May 1981. In the communique which was signed by Demostenes Chilingutila, the chief of defense staff of the Angolan Liberation Armed Forces, the resistance movement opposed to the central government in Luanda explained that if necessary, impartial observers from the international community can go to the site to acquaint themselves with the situation. The town of Mavinga is in the Cuando Cubango Province, sharing borders with Namibia and Zambia. It adds that UNITA's recent victories over Soviet and Cuban occupation forces were widely published by the international press following the last July visit of some Western journalists to the regions under the control of the UNITA. [Text] [AB090900 Paris AFP in French 1525 GMT 8 Aug 81]

TALKS WITH ALGERIA--Luanda, 10 Aug (ANGOP) -- The delegation of the people's assembly of the People's Republic of Angola and the delegation of the National Popular Assembly of the Republic of Algeria held a meeting late Monday afternoon, in Luanda, within the framework of the latter's visit to Angola, which began on Sunday. The aim of the meeting at which the Angolan delegation was led by Bernardo de Sousa, first secretary of the people's assembly, was to exchange experiences between the people's assembly and the National Popular Assembly of Algeria. This meeting, which was also attended by Casimiro Sergio, the second secretary of the people's assembly, serves as a basis to strengthen existing cooperation relations between the parliaments of the two countries. The Algerian delegation, led by Dilmi Abbes, chairman of the Algerian National Assembly's Economic Committee, met this morning with deputies Evaristo Domingos (Kimba) and Lopo do Nascimento, coordinator of the committee on industry, energy and petroleum and member of the committee on planning, finance, external trade, (?banking) and international cooperation respectively. Also yesterday the Angolan delegation paid homage at the tomb of the immortal guide of the Angolan revolution, Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto. During their stay in Angola, the Algerian delegation will visit the provinces of Zaire, Uige, Mocamedes and Bengo, where they will meet with deputies of the provincial assemblies. [Text] [AB111208 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 0945 GMT 11 Aug 81]

CSO: 4728/96

PRESENCE OF FRENCH TROOPS ALONE PREVENTS EXPLOSIVE SITUATION

Paris LE MONDE in French 4 Aug 81 p 3

[Article by Pierre Biarnes: "President Dacko Must Confront Political Uncertainty and an Economic Paralysis"]

[Text] Coming from the Congo Mr David Dacko, President of the Central African Republic, went to Kinshasa Saturday 1 August at the end of the morning for a 24-hour working visit, at the end of which Messrs Dacko and Mobutu in a joint communique expressed their wish to give new vigor to the Zaire-Central African mixed commission. The lawrer is to meet "soon", at a date still to be fixed.

The two chiefs of state also approved the beginning of the engineering work on the Mobayi dam on the Ubangi river in the north of Zaire on the Centrafican border.

Bangui. At the M'Poko airport, closed from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., baggage checks are stricter than usual. In the city searches and identity checks are carried out frequently both day and night, and soldiers are posted at the entries of public buildings and the principal crossroads. Those are the only effects of the state of seige, proclaimed after the deadly attack last 14 July in the Central African capital. No curfew was even instituted. Despite threats by those who claimed responsibility for the attack there has been no serious incident to lament since then; as a result tension has almost completely abated.

Political uncertainty is added to the effects of a disastrous economic and financial situation inherited from Bokassa, and which in 2 years it has been impossible to set right.

Cotton production, the largest income producing crop in the country, now at levels clearly below those reached before World War II, has even continued to decline: less than 28,000 tons of cotton seeds in 1978-79, barely 25,000 in 1979-80, less than 20,000 for the current season. Less that 250,000 diamond carats are officially marketed (more than 100,000, if not double that amount, are sent illegally to the Congo or other destinations) and coffee production is approximately 10,000 tons, a paltry figure. Fish culture itself tends to become ever more inadequate. Wood alone maintains a fairly good level (approximately 110,000 cubic meters of rough timber exported last year).

A Battle of Chiefs

Effective consumer demand is very weak, and has repercussions on importations and in consequence on customs and fiscal receipts which only are enlivened at the end of the month by foreign grants, mainly French, for paying the accounts of government functionaries (about 1.5 billion CFA francs per month).

However, large-scale fraud and corruption are ever rampant and have only been partially attenuated by the few French functionaries seconded from Paris following "Operation Baracuda." It is planned to withdraw them. In recent months the looting, following the 19 March announcement of the election of President Dacko, finally undermined the confidence of shopkeepers who have since reduced their supplies to a bare minimum. Unemployment continues to increase to dangerous levels, swelling the mass of the underprivileged who are ready for anything, and the "guemodes" who crowd up in the unhealthy quarters of "kilometer 5".

The stagnant and potentially explosive character of the political situation is matched by the growing paralysis of the economy.

Legally in office, even if he barely scraped by in the March election still bitterly contested by his enemies, he is accepted by his African peers, as was shown by his 21 July participation in the inaugural ceremonies of the Marien Ngouabi mausoleum at Brazzaville. Mr Dacko still holds the advantage he gained—although hardly brilliant—by his return to Bangui in September 1979 in a French Army Transall. The new French leaders, however irritated they may be by this fait accompli, which was contrary to their wishes, certainly do not plan to help push him out, in any event, by force. Despite that, the chief of state is not in control of political developments.

The banning of Mr Lala's Central African National Liberation Movement (MCLN), which claimed responsibility for the 14 July attack, and of Mr Abel Goumba's Ubangian Patriotic Front (FPO) were mere empty gestures. On the one henad, these two parties have but a small number of members; on the other, their leaders, who already had fled abroad when these measures aere adopted, can continue to develop their propaganda activities abroad as much as they like.

The "suspension of activities" of the Movement for the Liberation of Central Africa (MPLC), headed by Mr Ange Patasse, is even more pathetic. Whatever one might think of this ex-collaborator of Bokassa, Mr Patasse nevertheless received more than 38 percent of the votes cast in the presidential elections last 14 Marcy, against 50.23 percent for Mar Dacko. Even if these voters were for the must part obtained by exactly the same methods for which the opposition rightly or wrongly blames Mr Dacko, it nonetheless confers a very great authority on their beneficiary. This is especially true in the capital, where any repressive measure against the MPLC under current circumstances would probably not fail to provoke an uprising whose consequences are impossible to foretell. In fact, that is why, however "suspended" he may be, Mr Patasse--who has withdrawn to this property at "kilometer 10" and is protected by hundreds of supporters armed with bows and poisoned arrows--acts like a true leader of an opposition government, who those in high places are very careful not to irritate.

Holding consultations throughout the day, receiving visiting journalists, he continues just as he has for months to give orders to boycott cotton production, and to refuse to pay taxes, awaiting his early accession to the post of head of state—on the procedures and the consequences of which he discourses interminably, making the most extravagant promises to all.

This "battle of chiefs" makes it impossible to see how any true national reconciliation could come about. As a result, the idea of a possible return to the force of the Army is making progress.

During his 15 years in power Bokassa had eliminated about all the officers of the Central African Army who could have offended him. With nearly 5,000 men, it remains not very effective, even if it is no longer as rundown as at the fall of the Empire, thanks to French technical assistance. Moreover President Dacko himself, from all appearances, does not wish to see its quality improve too quickly. His new senior officers are very unobtrusive and cautious, beginning with its new chief of staff, general of the army, Andre Kolingba. They nonetheless in a few months have become one of the elements of the complicated game now being played out in Bangui, and even somewhat more so these last few days, thanks to the state of seige.

While awaiting the outcome, all observers here consider that at present only the maintenance of French troops prevents the situation from becoming completely explosive and Central Africa's being swallowed up in a "Chad process."

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FPO LEADER DISCUSSES POLITICAL SITUATION, FRENCH TROOPS' PRESENCE

Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Jul 81 p 3

[Interview with Dr Abel Goumba, head of the Ubangi People's Patriotic Front--Labor Party, by correspondent Philippe Decraene, in Paris, date not specified]

[Text] President David Dacko decreed a state of siege over the entire Central African territory and called on the army, asking its chief of staff to "provide the necessary troop assistance to disperse any mob formed anywhere in Central African territory."

In an order signed Tuesday evening, the chief of state declared that the "use of force involves the use of weapons."

The French defense minister indicated, following this decision, that French troops in the Central African Republic were confined to barracks and would have to intervene only if the safety of French civilians were threatened.

Dr Abel Goumba, head of the Ubangi People's Patriotic Front—Labor Party (FPO-PT)—who left Bangui on 10 July and who has been living in Paris since 14 July, granted an interview to our colleague Philippe Decraene.

[Question] Idi Lala, current leader of the Central African Movement for National Liberation, having formerly been your spokesman, should we conclude therefore that the Ubangi People's Patriotic Front will henceforth have an armed wing?

[Answer] In no way. Idi Lala was expelled from the Front by the rank and file militants, a decision confirmed in August 1980 by our party's central committee.

[Question] How do you explain that the chief of state has outlawed the Patriotic Front whereas you had officially disavowed the 14 July assassination attempt when you were already in Paris?

[Answer] Dacko has once again yielded to a reflex of fear. He knowingly and unfairly put the MCLN [Central African Movement for National Liberation] and the Front in the same category. He has never played the democratic game and he intends to adhere to a line of conduct which has been his for 20 years. Already in 1960 he outlawed the Movement for the Democratic Development of Africa (MEDAC) of which I was the head. The Bangui regime is a fascist regime.

[Question] Officially, multiple parties are accepted, however?

[Answer] Officially, of course. But the government party, the Central African Democratic Union (UCD) is the only one to enjoy complete freedom of action and expression. All the other political parties are intimidated, which impedes the exercise of the democratic proces. The principal group of affiliated trade unions, the General Union of Central African Workers, has been disbanded.

[Question] When you were still in exile, you demanded the immediate repatriation of the French troops. Are you maintaining this position?

[Answer] No, because today there is a socialist government in power in France, which has proclaimed its neutrality vis-a-vis the Bangui government. Giscard d'Estaing, on the other hand, had personalized Central African power by coming to seek out Dacko in Paris in order to bring him back to the Central African Republic in the hold of a Transall. The Barracudas *were not, at that time, protecting the Central African people, just Dacko himself.

[Question] The military presence, therefore, no longer shocks you?

[Answer] The number of French soldiers would have to be reduced and they would have to be barracked in a less visible manner. On the other hand, these soldiers would have to effectively fulfill their role of training a new Central African Army.

[Question] Would you agree to participate in a national government with the present majority, led by President Dacko?

[Answer] I do not see any real majority, but a governing minority. I am ready to enter into a government of national union, covering all the political elements in the country, including the Central African Democratic Union, but excluding Dacko himself.

[Question] You do not envision the Front attaining power except by legal means?

[Answer] Yes, that is why I am excluding the MCLN, which resorts to violence, from any formula for a government of national union. However, if Dacko persists in his negative attitude, we must envisage resorting to other solutions.

[Question] Does the threat which hangs over you, of a possible international arrest warrant, worry you?

[Answer] All that is ridiculous. It would be paradoxical if Bokassa were to go about freely and if I, who struggled for 14 years against him, were to be arrested.

[Question] What is your position with regard to France?

[Answer] I am a man of the left. The government which France has just provided for itself is for me a natural ally and not one of circumstance. I expect that the French Government will exert serious pressure, including financial pressure, on Dacko, to force him to really democratize his regime. Lacking such a peaceful evolution, the Central African Republic will experience the fate of Chad.

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^{*} Name given by the Central Africans to the French parachutists stationed in Bangui since September 1979.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FPO SAID TO BE ONLY PARTY WITH COHERENT, SPECIFIC PROGRAM

Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] The situation which prevails in the Central African Republic is stamped with the seal of ambiguity. Returning to Bangui in September 1979 in the French Army's Transalls, President Dacko, although elected last March, has not succeeded in establishing his legitimacy in a convincing manner. Faced with considerable economic difficulties, a legacy of the defunct imperial regime, the heir to former Emperor Bokassa is also piling up political blumders.

A few days after the trip made by t prime minister, Mr Bozanga, to Paris to affirm that the Central African chief of state was resolved to practice democratic openmindedness, the later adopted a fundamentally contrary attitude and attacked the opposition, certain elements of which he outlawed. Then giving a picture of confusion, he proclaimed a state of siege and called on the army, ruining even further the slim credit he appears to retain in Paris.

But if Mr Dacko's credibility is eroding, most of his political adversaries are not, for that matter, worthy of a guarantee of absolute respectability: not Francois Pehoua, a candidate in the last presidential election, who, as a former "protege" of President Dacko was disappointed at having been dropped by him, and has difficulty in overcoming his rancor and indulged in an overstatement which, it is said, "scandalized" the Elysee's inner circles; nor Ange Patasse, ll times minister under the empire, the next-to-last prime minister of an abhorred regime, hastily converted to advanced socialist doctrine; nor Mr Maidou, an able politician, unfortunately for too long linked with the former sovereign; nor Idi Lala, who knows how to exploit, for his sole advantage, the disorders which he tries to provoke.

There remains a man whose rectitude no one will dispute, not even among his competitors: Dr Abel Goumba, the leader of the Ubangi People's Patriotic Front (FPO). Seventeen years of voluntary exile have kept him aloof from any compromise with an empire founded on corruption and nepotism. The way in which Dr Goumba, then in France, reacted to the Bangui assassination attempt which, on 14 July, left 3 dead and 27 wounded, attests to the dispassionateness of a leader who does not simply seek to replace Mr Dacko. Indeed, the Ubangi People's Patriotic Front is the only party whose chief has finalized a government program that is both coherent and specific.

It is not because of present circumstances that Dr Abel Goumba calls on the spirit of socialism. Already in 1958, when the Central African Republic was still only Oubangui-Chari and when Dr Goumba was the president of the Government Council of the territory, the latter, a renowned militant socialist, found himself for that very reason exposed to the harassments of the colonial administration. It is therefore not surprising that, of all the Central African opposition, Dr Goumba is, today, in Paris, the most credible. Unfortunately, he also appears to be singularly lacking ir troops.

For all that, whatever may be the strength of the Elysee's sympathies for Dr Goumba had whatever the force of the pressures exerted in his behalf by the Socialist Party itself, the new majority does not intend to resort to the intervention weapon, which it always condemned during the time Mr Giscard d'Estaing used it readily. It is therefore up to Dr Goumba to obtain recognition by legal means.

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

FOREIGN PRESS CRITICIZED—Bangui, 8 Aug (AFP)—CAR Radio on Friday expressed strong opposition to the criticism being made against CAR politicians by the foreign press and called on all Central Africans to close ranks. In an editorial, Radio Bangui disclosed that sensationalist newspapers have been dramatizing certain daily facts in the country to the point of spoiling the reputation of some CAR politicians, regardless of their political leanings. This phenomenon, Radio Bangui went on to say, tends to give public opinion the impression that the Central African is incapable of ensuring the socioeconomic revival of his country by himself. Radio Bangui called on all Central Africans to close ranks, silence their passions and seek ways and means of consolidating the economic revival. The radio also stressed that all that endangers unity, peace and national harmony serves the purpose of small or big powers with expansionist aims. [Text] [ABO81339 Paris AFP in French 0954 GMT 8 Aug 81]

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL TO EGYPT, SUDAN--Libreville, 7 Aug (AFP)--Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei stated Friday that he was ready to visit Sudan and Egypt provided leaders of of these two countries come to understand the Chadian problem very well. In a press conference in Libreville after his 48-hour working visit to Gabon, Mr Goukouni Oueddei added that Chad, which has just finished a long civil war, should open its woors to the whole world providing its partners give it concrete, realistic support for the struggle the government has undertaken for the reconstruction of the country. To this end, the Chadian President cited the example of Libya which, apart from the assistance it gives for military training, has also financed civil servants' salaries for 6 months with soft-term loans, he said. [Text] [AB071822 Paris AFP in French 1715 GMT 7 Aug 81]

WFP FOOD AID--(AFP)--The UN-FAO World Program (WFP [World Food Program]) announced on Thursday, 16 July, the award of \$2.2 million in emergency food aid to the people of Chad affected by the civil war. Shipment of this aid, 3,450 tons of cereals, powdered milk and edible oil for 50,000 persons, will be made over a period of 5 months. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Jul 81 p 4] 9434

HAMDANE'S DENUNCIATION OF HABRE--Abderahman Hamdane stated, in a communication to AFP, that on 10 July he had relinquished his duties as executive secretary of the Command Council of the Armed Forces of the North and had committed himself to fighting against Hissene Habre, whom he denounced for his "negative evaluation" as head of that agency, as well as for his "tribalism" and "racism." [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Jul 81 p 3] 9434

INTEREST OF PCT IN STIMULATING PEASANTS TO GREATER OUTPUT NOTED

Brazzaville ETUMBA in French No 601 18 Jul 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] As the ruling center of the Congolese people, the Congolese Labor Party [PCT] draws its strength from the broad working masses among whom the peasants stand out by virtue of a commitment never disowned in the course of our struggles for national liberation and scientific socialism.

On the other hand, the PCT, the party of workers and peasants, of revolutionary fighters and intellectuals, gives sustained attention to peasant reality. This interest is attested to concretely by the constant travels of the members of the political leadership to the interior of the country. The recent interregional journey of the chief of the Congolese Revolution, Comrade President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, is ery meaningful in this respect. Almost a month spent with the peasants shows not only a concern for maintaining the bond with the peasants, but also a will for change, for a revolutionary transformation of the peasant world.

The objectives and stages of this transformation in depth are defined in the party's program.

Taking into account the dialectic connections between town and country, as well as the mandatory alliance of the workers and peasants in the revolutionary process, what is involved is achieving increased agricultural productivity, reducing the gap separating, since colonization, the city from the country, so as to speed up economic exchanges and slow down the rural exodus.

That is what is stipulated in the Congolese Labor Party's program; it is also the sense in which to interpret and understand the successive stays of members of the political leadership in our villages.

That is, consequently, the red thread which underlies the government party's action.

In its last weekly meeting, the Council of Ministers took a series of measures on behalf of our rural masses. Among these we note, with legitimate pride, the increased prices paid to the producers for a number of foodstuffs and agricultural products.

Twice in succession, in less than a year, the purchase prices paid by the specialized offices for the peasants' agricultural production have been raised; this fact should be pointed out.

This price increase is a way of encouraging greater work effort in accordance with the year's directive. It is also a material incentive, a true motor nerve for production which will induce the peasants to work more, in order to produce and earn more.

The production tasks assigned to the peasant world are heavy. The peasants, it so happens, have the mission of feeding the people, of producing for export and of supporting our country's industrialization.

Considering the peasant world's dominating place in the self-centered and self-dynamic development model, the promotion of a policy for the encouragement and participation of our peasant masses is fully indicated. It is one of the essential conditions for their full and complete integration in the current battles of the provisional program, a prelude to the more arduous battles of our first 1982-86 five-year plan.

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CONGO

BRIEFS

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS--The foreign minister, Comrade Pierre Nze, this morning arrived in Libreville [as heard] from Sao Tome. During his 3-day official visit to Sao Tome, the minister was received in audience by the president of Sao Tome and Principe, Dr Manuel Pinto da Costa, to whom he delivered a personal message from Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso. It will be recalled that Comrade Pierre Nze left Brazzaville last Sunday for Sao Tome and Principe. [Text] [AB121357 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 12 Aug 81]

CHANA

BRIEFS

NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION POLICY -- The DAILY GRAPHIC takes up the announcement by the Nigerian Government to deport all illegal immigrants and those who have overstayed their permits. To the paper, every country has its own immigration laws and for security and other reasons, every country insists on visitors taking visas or resident permits even if the visits are for only 1 hour. The Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, it says, has succeeded in fixing the minimum number of days at 90 so that any citizen of ECOWAS can enter another country without visa. However, beyond that period, one has to showetse [as published] for overstaying or should have taken a prior visa or any ECOWAS member intending to stay longer than 90 days should go through the normal immigration procedures. To the GRAPHIC, Nigeria, being the biggest and richest ECOWAS member, appears to have the worst of her exchanges and played host to large migrant forces who enter as visitors but overstay their stipulated 90 days. The GRAPHIC says it is obvious that those who have offended Nigerian laws should be deported and there should be no misgivings about it. The paper, however, appeals to the Nigerian Government to ensure that its immigration and security agencies carry out the deportation order with care. [Excerpt] [AB090855 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Aug 81]

CSO: 4700/333

GUINEA-BISSAU

BRIEFS

EXTRAORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS—Bissau, 11 Aug (AFP)—Guinea—Bissau is preparing an extraordinary congress of the African Independence Party of Guinea—Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), on the theme of readjustment for national unity and social justice. The congress will be held from 8 to 14 November. According to sources close to the preparatory committee, the congress that is going to be held will constitute a reaffirmation of the PAIGC as the sole party in Guinea—Bissau and will be a moment of collective reflection on the role of the party in the building of the Guinea—Bissau society. The preparatory committee, chaired by Mr Victor Saude Maria, vice president of the Council of the Revolution and minister of foreign affairs, has drafted five documents which will be studied by the party officials and is now analyzing the party's programs and constitution. [Excerpts] [AB111409 Paris AFP in French 1230 GMT 11 Aug 81]

RETURNING STUDENTS FROM CUBA, GDR RECOUNT EXPERIENCES

Recalcitrant Elements

Maputo MOTICIAS in Portuguese 6 Aug 81 p 3

[Text] "It is through our political line that we were able to keep burning the flame of our moral and cultural values and a conscientious and indefatigable attitude vis-a-vis our studies," Constancio Cossa, leader of one of the two groups of young Mozambican workers recently returned from Cuba and the GDR stressed. The groups had been sent to those countries to be trained in various technical specializations.

The organizational work conducted by these groups in all fields during their 2 years of training in Cuba and the GDR, the highly developed sense of discipline and devotion to studies constitute an example among groups of various nationalities, both from a behavioral and dedicational point of view.

As a result of the conscientiousness demonstrated by these groups vis-a-vis the task assigned to them by our country, 5 of the 17 workers who had traveled to Cuba were selected as monitors for the various fields of study and 10 of the 20 workers in the GDR continued their training in that country for an additional year and a half, in order to be graduated as monitors in the various specialties of agricultural equipment and heavy vehicle repair and maintenance.

Political Combat

"The first thing we did when we reached Cuba was to launch a political struggle to get to know each other, since we had never been together before and because we were sponsored by different organisms. Using our political line, we were able to conduct a strenuous battle against some activities that jeopardized our very personality," Constancio Cossa explained.

It was soon found out that from a behavioral point of view, there were workers who were conscious of the mission entrusted them and there were others who were losing touch with our political line because of their contacts with colleagues of different nationalities. A number of workers within the group began to imitate the values of other nationalities, alleging that "as long as they are also following a socialist line, there is nothing wrong with assimilating their values."

Constancio Cossa added that "it was within the framework of this struggle that we regrettably had to send two workers of our group back to Mozambique after 1 year in Cuba, having noticed that they were recalcitrant and were hurting the group's unity and cohesion.

Excellence in Courses

The manner in which the Mozambicans organized themselves to take the courses offered merited the admiration of other national groups in Cuba. Aware of the difficulties ahead of them—there were 14 different fields—they organized themselves in study groups. This was very helpful, because each group had their leader who was in charge of ea h worker's study progress.

Simultaneously, monthly meetings were held to analyze each member's activities and to debate behavioral issues. The main objective of these meetings was to define ways in which to help those of the group who were lagging behind. As a result, the group's progress increasingly improved.

"Already during the second semester, school officials were looking at our group with admiration; gradually five of our comrades were selected to become monitors in various fields. While we did not compromise our principles and our personalities, our relations with other nationalities were on a satisfactory basis."

On the occasion of the second campaign for party structuring in our country, this group of Mozambican students in Cuba launched the process of selecting party members from among the students. A cell was created, as well as an OJM [Organization of Mozambican Youth] nucleus. These were the structures that guided political work within the group.

"We know that the enemy is attempting to discredit the idea of sending Mozambicans to Cuba, affirming that we go to that fraternal country only to harvest sugar cane and engage in other tasks of production. But in reality, we participate in various productive activities as an indispensable complement of academic training: this is the central activity," Constancio Cossa stated.

Mozambicans who went to the GDR conducted a different kind of activity that merited them the esteem of the popular masses with whom they were in contact. At the end of the agricultural mechanics and IFA [trucks] mechanics courses, the group was singled out as an example to be followed by the representatives of all the other countries studying in the GDR, not only because of their behavior, but also because of their devotion to their studies.

Highest Grades

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 6 Aug 81 p 8

[Excerpts] A young Mozambican in the Republic of Cuba received the highest grades in the intermediate course on scientific organization of labor during the academic year 1980-1981 at the Julian Grimau technical institute.

This distinction was won by Jeremias Domingos Francisco Alfandega, who received the highest grade among Sao Tomean, Angolan, Guinean, Beninese, Cuban and others of various nationalities.

The courses on scientific organization of labor and on industrial health offered at the Julian Grimau technical institute are sponsored by the Cuban state committee on labor and social security.

CSO: 4728/97

BRIEFS

SUNKEN SPEEDBOAT'S CREW--One year ago today a speedboat for pilots sank in Maputo Bay. The causes of the accident were never disclosed, but it had been feared that the boat had sunk in the area close to the pilots' harbor bar. Search operations were conducted for more than 2 weeks, involving boats, helicopters and small planes, but no trace of the boat could be found. The national directorate of ports and railroads issued a communique yesterday in which it "expresses its deep regret about the death of the workers from the Maputo port pilot services." Members of the crew were Domingos Gomes Araujo, Anatoly Malenik, Afonso Carlos, Penha Alizardo Macia, Chilubane Zimbane and Luis Tinga. The communique praises the spirit of sacrifice of these workers and offers its condolences to the stricken families. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 6 Aug 81 p 3]

SUNKEN LEASED SHIP IRRECOVERABLE—The ship "Castle Glory" is practically irrecoverable. This was announced to our reporter by telephone early this morning. Our source in the city of Beira said that operations to salvage the ship's cargo have already begun. Helicopters from the Mozambican Air Force flew over the area to study the possibility of removing at least part of the ship's cargo. This operation is slated to begin today. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 6 Aug 81 p 8]

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS DEPART--'We are ready to exert our influence on the United States so that it accepts our proposals on Namibia within the framework of resolution 435," Martin Bangenman told our reporters. The delegation from the European Parliament left yesterday for Lesotho. Martin Bangenman and Ulrich Irmer will then visit South Africa, where the latter will hold talks with the Pretoria authorities. Bangenman, the leader of the liberal wing of the European Parliament referred to the importance of their visit to Mozambique because this country constitutes somewhat of an exception in the relations with the EEC. In relation to the Reagan administration's possible reluctance to implement resolution 435, Bangenman specified that his wing is ready to exert its influence so that it accepts their proposals. However, he excluded the possibility of a break with this administration. [Excerpt] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 6 Aug 81 p 1]

CSO: 4728/97

PRESIDENT SAYS FOOD PRICES WILL HAVE TO BE INCREASED

Paris AFRICA AFP in English 4 Aug 81 p 14

[Text] Niamey, 3 Aug--Niger is soon going to be forced to bring its prices into line with reality and raise the price of cereals by at least 30 per cent, President Seyni Kountche warned here last night in a bleak message marking the country's 21st independence anniversary.

He said a drop in market prices for exported raw materials and the high value of the dollar meant that terms of exchange were the most unfavourable Niger had yet experienced.

The strong dollar led automatically to a rise in the value of the currency of neighbouring Nigeria, a major trading partner for Niger, he said.

Niger would "of necessity" be affected by unemployment, President Kountche admitted. But help from Arab countries, he added, would enable Niger to carry on with some development projects in the coming two years.

Urging realism and austerity, the President said that people in Niger should change their eating habits to make use of other cereals available on the market instead of asking only for millet, which had become expensive. In addition, the rains were late this season and millet harvests would be lower than usual, he warned. (A.F.P.)

CSO: 4700/337

FINAL RESOLUTION OF MEETING OF PS NATIONAL COUNCIL

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 27 Jul 81 p 8

/Excerpts/ The work of the PS national council was ratified Saturday shortly after noon with the adoption of a final resolution, the full text of which is published below:

The national council, meeting at party headquarters on 25 July under the chairmanship of Comrade Alioune Badara Mbengue, deputy secretary general, examined the agenda for the following day:

- 1)--Introductory report by Comrade Abdou Diouf, secretary general of the Socialist Party /PS7;
- 2)--Report on mass housing policy by Comrade Oumar Welle, minister of urban affairs, housing and environment.

Diouf, starting with a general survey of political activity, drew conclusions and gave instructions which were carefully noted by the national council in order to be taken into consideration in connection with the actions to be taken to make our party increasingly forceful, dynamic, and able to play its role in the organizing of the great majority of the Senegalese people, in the new national political context of complete party pluralism.

In this connection, the national council congratulated the secretary general for his perseverance in the matter of utilization of the funds coming from the special national solidarity levy, and in implementation of the law on illegal income.

With regard to our mass housing policy, his observations and proposals were given serious consideration, in the decisions of the national council.

The national council then heard the report on mass housing given by Comrade Oumar Wele, minister of urban affairs, housing and environment. The council paid particularly close attention, being aware of the importance of the subject under discussion, the level of development of a country often being indicated by its housing and particularly by the mass housing.

He noted in Senegal mass housing has constantly occupied a leading position in the elaboration of the various quadrennial plans, and the administrative authorities have always considered it of great importance. Today it still appears to be one of the

fundamental options of our medium-term economic and financial recovery policy. Also, this mass housing policy has been cited as an example, and Senegal ranks high among the nations who have done the most in this field.

However, even though it is true that Senegal was quick to make the decision to take vigorous action to improve mass housing, and even though significant results have been achieved, it must nevertheless be admitted that we have only achieved 40 to 45 percent of our goal.

This situation is evidently creating a malaise, not only in the towns, but also in the rural areas. It is for this reason that the PS has decided to reconsider the question, in order to identify the weaknesses so as to correct them and redefine a new mass housing policy that will be more in accordance with the aspirations of our people.

The national council, considering that it is important to take a critical look at actions undertaken in the field of mass housing,

Considering that the SICAP /expansion unknown, since its creation in 1951, has built 10,158 housing units providing lodging for about 100,000 persons. Considering that OHLM /expansion unknown, for its part, has built 8,883 housing units holding about 90,000 persons since starting in 1960,

Considering that, unfortunately, these two enterprises have primarily been active in the towns, while the rural areas have not received more than 500 housing units,

Considering, moreover, that SICAP and OHLM, in the period from the 2nd to the 5th plan, respectively completed only 40 and 50 percent of their assigned projects,

Considering that the objective, which was to enable the most disadvantaged to acquire property as well as to eliminate gradually the shantytowns and anarchic occupancy, has not been attained,

Considering on the other hand that the BNDS \(\subseteq \text{Senegal National Development Bank \(\subseteq \), whose efforts merit mention, has nevertheless been forced to scale down its involvement, because of the financial problems which beset the country,

Considering that at the same time "Operation Parcel Rehabilitation," which has been highly successful, has suffered a loss of momentum because of the same financial problems,

Considering, on the other hand, that in the context of subsidized construction the renovation of the old quarters quickly ran out of steam for financial reasons, but also because of the scarcity of available land,

Considering, finally, that as a whole construction of housing units by industry for its workers, or by trade associations for their members, or even by big businessmen desirous of entering the real estate field, has not been as successful as could have been hoped, primarily because of problems obtaining land or financial problems,

Considering that all these mass housing activities have been subjected to considerable delays in relation to demand,

Considering that today in the mass housing sector there is a grave crisis, caused by the reduction in our mass housing productive capacity, and by lack of habitable locations,

Considering that the crisis shows up in the proliferation of irregular occupancy and the irregular location of the old quarters, in the appearance of speculation exploiting the transfer or rental of mass housing, as well as the sale of land and finally in a growing disparity between our towns and our rural areas,

Considering the necessity of correcting this situation by the execution of the program established by the ministry of urban affairs, housing, and environment which envisions the construction of 15,000 housing units in the next 5 years, through SICAP, OHLM, the private entrepreneurs, and the rehabilitated parcels,

Congratulates the government for the achievements already accomplished in the field of mass housing and for its determination to resolve the grave crisis in this field,

Asks the government to undertake vigorous action to rehabilitate the mass housing sector, by means of a merciless war on land speculation and abuses in the sale of state lands or the national domain, as well as by a war on the uncontrolled occupancy of state lands and the national domain,

Urges the government at the same time to launch a catch-up operation in the building of mass housing, in hopes of overcoming, as quickly as possible, the quantitative shortage that has built up over the years,

Believes, in that connection, that it is necessary to increase the production capacity of the state land companies (SICAP and OHLM), to take measures to encourage private entrepreneurs, and finally to extend the "rehabilitated parcels" program to towns in the interior,

Is pleased that the government is reorienting its mass housing policy,

Approves, in that regard, the proposals made to orient mass housing toward the new demands of cost compression, consideration of the collective needs of each neighborhood unit, and finally, the quality and functionality of the housing units,

Congratulates the government for its determination to deal with the crucial problem of mass housing in our country, not only in Dakar, but also in the towns in the interior and in the rural sector,

Asks the government to study and to rapidly develop a program of rural housing responding to the needs of the people,

Expresses its concern, however, about the reduction in the financial resources available to the state companies and about the increase in the interest rate on the loans they are providing,

Asks the government to find new ways to make all the public bodies involved in mass housing (SICAP, OHLM, BHS /Senegal Housing Bank7) more effective,

Urges the government to take all needed measures to complete the 15,000 housing units in the medium term program established by the ministry of urban affairs, housing, and environment.

Encourages it to take the initiative with friendly countries and international institutions to obtain low-interest loans for the implementation of our mass housing program,

Demands that the SICAP and OHLM programs involve all regions and all departments,

Asks all militants to assist the public authorities in rehabilitating the mass housing sector, by denouncing swindlers wherever they originate,

Urges them to conduct an educational campaign in the countryside to enable the people to better focus their efforts in the field of mass housing,

The national council, considering the persistence of serious tensions, almost everywhere in the Third World which directly or indirectly involve the developed countries,

Considering in that regard the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict,

Considering the success achieved by the last OAU Organization of African Unity summit which resulted in the strengthening of the cohesion of the African states,

Considering that the presence of Libyan troops in Chad does not permit a normalization of the situation in that country,

Considering that the great powers should show greater determination to resolve the Namibian problem,

Asks the developed countries to quit considering the Third World as a testing range in their rivalries,

Asks the OAU secretary general to take steps very rapidly to put an African peace force in Chad,

Notes with pleasure the measures taken at the OAU summit relative to the normalization of the situation in Western Sahara,

Asks the five western countries to take more vigorous action to find a solution to the Namibian problem,

Is pleased, in that connection, with the initiative being considered by West Germany to achieve a rapid solution in Namibia.

The national council,

Considering the recent actions undertaken by the government in the context of the medium term plan for economic and financial recovery,

Considering the careful preparations for the 1981 agricultural season,

Congratulates the government for its already effective implementation of the special hydraulics plan, as well as for its effort in the struggle against desertification, an effort which is being expressed through a vigorous reforestation program,

Declares itself pleased with the government's adoption of an austerity budget for 1981-1982.

Expresses its satisfaction with the decisions taken regarding the rural sector, particularly with respect to distribution of seed and basic provisions in addition to the cancellation of past debts,

Congratulates Prime Minister Habib Thiam and his government for the scrupulousness with which they have conducted the affairs of state in this difficult period,

The national council,

Considering the great success achieved by the president of the republic, Comrade Abdou Diouf, secretary general of the PS, during his recent visits to friendly countries,

Considering that these trips, in the present international situation, are a necessity for the development of our country, Congratulates Comrade Abdou Dious for the strong momentum he has given to governmental activity in every field for the success of the economic and financial recovery plan.

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

PDS MEMBERSHIP LOSSES--Mr. Papa Demba Diallo has left the Senegalese Democratic Party, which is at the moment the only parliamentary opposition to the ruling Socialist Party. He has decided to rejoin Mr. Mamadou Dia's Democratic and Popular Movement, which currently has no representation at the National Assembly. The Senegalese Democratic Party has recently lost a number of members to the Socialist Party, such that it is no longer considered a "parliamentary Group" and under the current constitution has little influence on the powerful committees. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 13 Jul 81 p 1619]

FRENCH REACTION ON GAMBIA--We must say that the events that have happened in Gambia have been known outside our borders for a while. The whole world considers the Senegalese Armed Forces' intervention perfectly legitimate. Here are the first reactions of our correspondents in Paris: It must be pointed out that no newspaper has condemned the Senegalese intervention in Gambia. All our colleagues have stressed the defense agreement concluded between Senegal and Gambia and which enables our country's intervention in Gambia. There is another reason which cannot be ignored: In fact, the French press commemtators believe that if, at a pinch, Senegal can accept an ordinary palace revolution in Banjul, it cannot--for obvious reasons--allow the establishment in Gambia of a hostile government which has affirmed right away the desire to set up a Marxist-Leninist regime. [Excerpt] [ABO41501 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 3 Aug 81]

NEED FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN PATIENTS, ORDERLIES

Dar es Salaam UHURU in Swahili 28 Jul 81 p 6

[Editorial: "Our Views"]

[Text] In our issue of yesterday, page 4, there was an appeal which concerned the medical attendants of the hospitals in the country. This appeal which was issued by the party chairman for Masasi District, Manzi Mangochi, requested medical attendants to use good language when addressing patients in order to develop friendly relations between them and the patients.

Although the party chairman for Masasi District was addressing midwives and medical attendants who had completed their training, the appeal which he made is important for all medical attendants in our country.

It is a recognized fact everywhere in the world that good language to patients who require medical services usually helps greatly in giving the patients confidence in the medical treatment which they receive. If the patients are addressed in unpleasant language, they may give up hope, a matter which is not good.

In general our brothers who serve in our hospitals, dispensaries and clinics try to provide good service. But there have been complaints that a few employees reprimand patients in language which is not pleasing.

For example, some of the women who have given birth in our hospitals have been heard to complain how the medical attendants in the hospitals derided their women friends when serving them.

It should be borne in mind that some of the citizens who go to our hospitals to obtain medical treatment are not clever about many things. These citizens need to be directed and instructed in good language, not made to give up hope by sharp language.

To tell the truth it is not only good language which it behooves medical attendants [to use] but their behavior in general must be pleasing. This includes working with discipline and self-reliance.

In some of our dispensaries there is behavior which undoubtedly annoys citizens who go to these dispensaries to obtain medical treatment. This behavior is that

of being kept waiting to obtain services because the person who was scheduled to provide these services is late in arriving at work.

This annoyance occurs especially when changing shifts in our dispensaries, between 0600 and 0800 hours and between 1900 and 2000 hours. The patients can arrive at the dispensary and see the doctor and be prescribed medicine, but they are hindered in obtaining medicine because the person who is scheduled to be at work is not at work. It would be appropriate to have a procedure for ensuring the progress of work without compelling the citizens to be disconcerted.

Citizens and we too must try to provide good cooperation with our medical attendants if the difficulty of their work is explained to us. If we expect good language and behavior to be provided by medical attendants, we who are being served must show respect and pleasing behavior with regard to our medical attendants so that their work may go well.

CSO: 4749/11

BRIEFS

CHINESE CULTURAL DELEGATION—A six—man Chinese cultural delegation currently in Tanzania on a 1-week official visit yesterday presented its proposals on Sino-Tanzanian cultural cooperation to the Tanzanian Government. The proposals were presented to the principal secretary of the Ministry of Information and Culture, Ndugu (Tiba Tiltila), by the leader of the Chinese delegation, (Cho Gu Wan), who said that the proposals aimed at rectifying [as heard] the 1962 cultural agreement between China and Tanzania. Replying, Ndugu (Tiba Tiltila) said that Tanzania was ready to promote good relations with China and that both countries intended to build and safeguard their agriculture—based societies. [Text] [EA120402 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0400 GMT 11 Aug 81 EA]

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